

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/658,893

Examiner

Douglas N. Washburn

Applicant(s)

KANKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2863

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 14 March 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3, 4 and 6-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☒ None of the:  
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
 (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1 Claims 3, 4 and 6-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 3 recites, in part, "predicting a possible malfunction of the automatic door apparatus based on the stored operating information and outputting a result of prediction regarding the possible malfunction". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 4 depends from claim 3.

Claim 6 recites, in part, "An AC is operative to predict a possible malfunction in a requested door apparatus based on stored operating information, and the AC includes a malfunction predicting section for outputting a result on prediction regarding a possible malfunction". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claims 7-9 depend from claim 6.

Claim 10 recites, in part, "An information terminal device of the maintenance station is operative to visibly alert occurrence of an abnormality on a display section of the information terminal device along with contents on the abnormality in response to receiving the information relating to occurrence of the abnormality and the self diagnosis result". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claims 11 and 12 depend from claim 10.

Claim 13 recites, in part, "Part or all stored operating information, or a result on prediction of a possible malfunction is transmittable to a maintenance station in response to a user's request of reading out the operating information or outputting the result on prediction of the possible malfunction through the information terminal device of the maintenance station". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 14 recites, in part, "A memory device which time-sequentially stores operating information repeatedly extracted by an extractor, the operating information being stored in an order of extracted time from a current time back for a predetermined period". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claims 15-18 depend from claim 14.

Claim 19 recites, in part, "An extractor updates contents stored in a memory device at a predetermined cycle". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claim 20 recites, in part, "An extractor suspends overwriting of operating information into a memory device when occurrence of malfunction is detected in an ADA, and retains operating information and self-diagnosis result before detection of occurrence of the malfunction in the memory device". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

It is these limitations, which are not found, taught or suggested in the prior art of record, and are recited in the claimed combination that makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Response to Arguments***

2 Applicant's arguments, see amendment, filed 14 March 2006, with respect to claim 14 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The §102(b) rejection of claims 14-18 has been withdrawn.

### ***Conclusion***

3 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas N. Washburn whose telephone number is (571) 272-2284. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 6:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

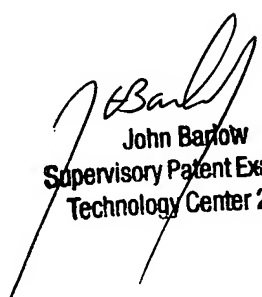
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DNW



John Barlow  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800